



## SRR Earns DOE VPP Safety Award

Savannah River Remediation (SRR) has received the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star award, the highest recognition in the department's VPP safety program. During a May 19 employee celebration, SRR President Dave Olson (right) said the VPP Star award is due to SRR employee commitment. "This is a testament to the safety culture that continues to be embraced by our employees," he said proudly.



## CHEMICAL ADDITIONS PROJECT: A safer, more efficient method of closing SRR tanks

Savannah River Site's H Tank Farm has a new look based on a new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)-funded project titled, "Chemical Additions."

In response to Savannah River Remediation's (SRR) commitment to operationally close waste tanks at SRS and due to the technical complexity of meeting scheduled requirements, SRR has accelerated the procurement, design and implementation of a new 10,000-gallon tank that will hold an added chemical known as Sodium Hydroxide (NaOH) — hence, "Chemical Additions."

This tank will support and improve processes in the H Tank Farm, says Rob Huff, cost account manager (CAM) for the project.

"The primary reason for installing the Chemical Additions tank is to provide for a safer and less-costly method for off-loading chemicals to various tanks - including Tank 50," said Huff.

Sodium Hydroxide is the chemical used for blending and mixing with high-level waste materials inside the tank, with objectives on prohibiting high-level waste materials from corroding the carbon-steel tank.

Prior to completion of the newly-installed Chemical Additions Project, distributing chemicals to tanks was a tedious, cumbersome job. The new method will improve safety precautions for employees by using permanent pipes instead of flexible hoses when distributing the chemicals.

"These modifications improve safety for all of our workers," said Huff, adding that the project started in October 2009 and should be completed in September 2011.

The project utilized Site workers and Recovery Act subcontractors to complete the job. The new tank was constructed in Blackfoot, Idaho, and the concrete trench which provides access to underground utility piping was fabricated in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

## Safety



A unique reminder!

## The ARRA Team



The SRR ARRA workforce:

**411** FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS  
as of May 2, 2011

For more information, contact the SRR:  
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log on to [www.srremediation.com](http://www.srremediation.com)

Two years ago during the enactment of the historic American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Henry Hayden said he had a good feeling about the groundbreaking legislation.

While Hayden was already employed at Savannah River Site (SRS), he knew the Recovery Act could be a positive event for him and several of his colleagues at the Site.

His intuition was soon confirmed as he witnessed ramped-up production activity that has occurred since the inception of Savannah River Remediation at SRS and its mission to clean-up and remediate the many waste tanks that contain nuclear waste but needed to be cleaned out, grouted and decommissioned.

“When ARRA came on-line (summer 2009), I watched my work grow tremendously,” said Hayden, an Augusta native and

graduate of the historic Lucy C. Laney High School. He soon realized the value of pursuing an apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) – Local Union 1579.

Hayden said he always wanted to pursue a career involving electricity. “As a youth in school

**Henry Hayden**

I always enjoyed fiddling with small items like lamps. I always enjoyed this type of work,” he said.

In 22 consecutive years at SRS, Hayden says he counts his blessings daily. “It’s been a great career and I’ve enjoyed all my jobs.” During his tenure he has earned duties requiring increased responsibilities.

He is now a Construction Discipline Engineer (CDE) specializing in Work Planning in H Area. As a Work Planner, he finds himself in a leadership role. Based on his extensive background as an electrician, the added ARRA work activity helped place him in a more supervisory position as a Work Planner.

He uses his practical work experience when he writes work packages for his fellow electricians. “The packages serve as an outline or guide for providing the workers with a formal guide to make sure their tasks are completed safely and successfully,” he said.

During recent Recovery Act activity, Hayden says he has worked on several vital SRR projects, such as Tank 13 and Tank 42 upgrades and the Chemical Additions Project. He also reviews designs and walk-downs to verify field conditions at Tanks 14, 15 and 16, he said. He explained verifying field conditions as “going out on the tank top and doing comparisons to ensure that the design matches the existing drawings.”

Hayden, 51, and his wife of 30 years, Sherice, have two adult children and a new grandson.



## SRS Transition Services Center Open

A Workforce Transition Center has been established to assist all SRS displaced workers in finding employment. The Center will provide assistance in resumé writing, financial counseling, interview workshops, and electronic job searches. Outside employers will also conduct open houses to present job opportunities at their companies. The Transition Center, located at the corner of Laurens and Park in Aiken, is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Dec. 2012. Trained staff will be on hand at all times to provide assistance.

**Call (803) 644-0010 to make an appointment prior to visiting the Center. The Workforce Transition Center is located at 237 Park Avenue, Aiken, SC.**

